

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GENEVA 08799 051758Z

43

ACTION IO-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 LAB-01 SIL-01 EUR-08 IOE-00 OIC-01

EB-03 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00 AF-04 NEA-07

ARA-08 EA-06 INRE-00 COME-00 SSO-00 /070 W

----- 114350

O R 051702Z NOV 76

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3398

INFO USUN NEW YORK 3880

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

CONFIDENTIAL GENEVA 8799

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, ILO

SUBJECT: ILO: TACTICAL LESSONS FROM THE MARITIME SESSION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE - OCTOBER 13-29

PASS LABOR FOR SEGALL, HOROWITZ, LINSENAYER AND GOLDBERG (BLS)

PASS COMMERCE FOR ASST SECY BLACKWELL

REF: (A) GENEVA 8547 (B) GENEVA 8008 (C) GENEVA 8062

1. SUMMARY: EVENTS AT THE RECENT MARITIME SESSION OF THE
INTERATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE (ILC) SUGGEST THAT WE NEED TO
PREPARE WELL IN ADVANCE FOR THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF THE
ANNUAL ILC AND ITS COMMITTEES NEXT JUNE AND THAT THE FOCUS
OF U.S. EFFORTS SHOULD BE ON AFRICAN MEMBERS OF ILO FROM WHOSE
RANKS THE NEXT ILC PRESIDENT WILL BE CHOSEN. MISSION
SUGGESTIONS FOLLOW IN PARA THREE BELOW. END SUMMARY

2. THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT U.S. INFLUENCE ON IMEC AND OTHER
MEMBERS OF ILO RESULTED IN THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE POLISH
CANDIDATE AND IN THE ELECTION OF A WESTERN EUROPEAN PRESIDENT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GENEVA 08799 051758Z

OF THE MARITIME SESSION OF THE ILC. ALSO NOTEWORTHY WAS

THE ANNOUNCED INTENTION OF THE EASTERN BLOC TO STAND FOR THE PRESIDENCY IN FUTURE ILC'S (REF B) BECAUSE THIS UNDERMINES RECENT PRACTICE IN ILO OF AUTOMATICALLY GIVING THE GOVERNMENT VICE PRESIDENCY OF THE ILC TO AN EE COUNTRY. THE WILLINGNESS OF THE GHANIANS ON THE SPUR OF THE MOMENT TO CONSIDER CHALLENGING THE EASTERN EUROPEANS FOR THE VICE PRESIDENCY OF THE MARITIME CONFERENCE (EVEN THOUGH THIS WOULD HAVE DEPRIVED THE EASTERN EUROPEANS OF ANY SIGNIFICANT POST) SUGGESTS THAT THEY AND PERHAPS OTHER AFRICANS INTERPRET "EQUITABLE GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION" IN TERMS OF THEIR OWN INTERESTS, AND THAT THEY MAY BE WILLING TO CHALLENGE THE EASTERN EUROPEANS FOR THE VICE PRESIDENTIAL POSITION AT FUTURE CONFERENCES. LASTLY, DURING THE INFORMAL NEGOTIATIONS TO SEEK AGREEMENT ON COMMITTEE CHAIRMANSHIPS TO THE MARITIME CONFERENCE, IT WAS CLEAR THAT ALTHOUGH THE GROUP OF 77 WAS ACTIVE THAT IT IS A FORCE THAT CAN BE RECKONED WITH; THE REGIONAL GROUPS OF THE 77 HAD NOT CAUCUSED BEFORE THE CONFERENCE AND DURING THE CONFERENCE MOST OF THEIR "COMMON INTERESTS" GAVE WAY TO INDIVIDUAL DESIRES FOR COMMITTEE CHAIRMANSHIPS. THE AFRICANS, FOR INSTANCE, GAVE US TO UNDERSTAND THEY HAD BEEN DOUBLECROSSED BY THE MEXICANS; BOTH LATING AMERICANS AND AFRICAN REPS WERE OPEN TO BARGAINING SUGGESTIONS.

3. IN THE LIGHT OF THE ABOVE, THE DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING TACTICS:

A - SINCE IT IS AFRICA'S TURN TO PROVIDE THE ILC PRESIDENT NEXT JUNE, WE MIGHT BEGIN SOON TO CONSIDER APPROPRIATE AFRICAN CANDIDATES (PREFERABLY AT CABINET LEVEL). HOPEFULLY, WE WILL FIND CANDIDATES (1) ONE OF WHOM WILL BE SELECTED BY THE AFRICANS AS THEIR MAN; (2) WHO WILL MAINTAIN ORDER AND GAVEL DOWN SPEAKERS FOR INTRODUCING EXTRANEous POLITICAL ISSUES AND (3) BE STRONGER THAN GEORGE LAMIN, THE LABOR MINISTER OF SIERRA LEONE, WHO HAS EXPRESSED PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR THE SOVIET CONCEPT OF GEOGRAPHICAL REPRESENTATION (REF C) AND WHO HAS PLAYED GAMES WITH BOTH THE SOVIETS AND US.

B - AFTER THE MARCH GOVERNING BODY SESSION WHEN WE HAVE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 GENEVA 08799 051758Z

DECIDED WHICH, IF ANY, COMMITTEE CHAIRMANSHIPS WE WANT IN JUNE, WE MIGHT SOUND OUT OUR ALLIES AND THE THIRD WORLD TO SEE WHAT THE BARGAINING SITUATION ON CHAIRMANSHIPS WILL BE LIKE IN JUNE. POSSIBLY AN APPROPRIATE ASIAN OR LATIN AMERICAN CANDIDATE COULD BE PERSUADED TO CHALLENGE THE EE BLOC FOR THE GOVERNMENT VICE PRESIDENCY (BECAUSE THE WORKERS WILL NOMINATE THEIR VICE PRESIDENT FIRST, AND BECAUSE THE THREE VICE PRESIDENTS MUST BE OF DIFFERENT NATIONALITIES,

WE WILL HAVE TO KEEP CLOSE CONTACT WITH THE WORKERS GROUP).
SHOULD THE EE BLOC BE DEFEATED FOR THE GOVERNMENT VICE
PRESIDENCY, WE WOULD BE CLOSER TO OUR OBJECTIVE OF GETING
THE ILO MEMBERSHIP TO RECOGNIZE THAT THE EE COUNTRIES HAVE
A RIGHT TO STAND FOR ELECTION BUT HAVE NO RIGHT WHATSOEVER
TO BE ELECTED.CATTO

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NOMINATION, MEETING CHAIRMAN, MARITIME MEETINGS, INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATIONS, COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 NOV 1976
Decapton Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decapton Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976GENEVA08799
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760413-0799
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761178/aaaacpj.j.tel
Line Count: 121
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: 76 GENEVA 8547, 76 GENEVA 8008, 76 GENEVA 8062
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 MAY 2004 by woolfihd>; APPROVED <14 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ILO: TACTICAL LESSONS FROM THE MARITIME SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE - OCTOBER 13-29 PASS
LABOR FOR SEGALL, HOROWITZ, LINSENAYER AND G
TAGS: ELAB, XA, ILO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006